

SUMMARY OF JAPANESE WAR CRIMES IN CHINA FROM 10 SEPTEMBER 1931 TO
13 AUGUST 1937 -- MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REPUBLIC
OF CHINA (OFFICIAL SEAL) --

Section XIX (pp. 105-107)

THE INCIDENT OF HOPEI PROVINCE

In the middle of May 1935, two Chinese by the name of HU SU-FAO and PAI YU-HUNG were assassinated in the Japanese Concession at Tientsin. Seizing this opportunity and blaming the Chinese for these assassinations, the Japanese tried to develop a situation to their advantage. SAKAI, Ruy, Chief of Staff, Japanese Garrison Forces in North China, and TAKAHASHI, Tan, Assistant Military Attache of the Japanese Embassy, called upon General HO YING-CHIN, Chairman of the Peiping Branch Council, National Military Council. They stated that the Japanese Army considered the assassinations of HU and PAI as Chinese acts of provocation against the Japanese Garrison Forces. If such actions, unfavorable to Japan and "Manchukuo", should continue to occur, then the Japanese Army would probably take drastic actions. They further demanded that General YU HSUEH-CHUNG be voluntarily transferred to some other post, and the Third Battalion of Chinese Military Police, the provincial and the municipal Kuomintang Party offices in Hopei Province, Bureau of Political Training of the Branch Council, and the so-called "Blue Shirts" as alleged by the Japanese be withdrawn too. In order to maintain the peace and the diplomatic relation, the Chinese Government thereupon voluntarily ordered the dismissal of CHEN KUO-TSIN, Chief of the Bureau of Political Training, CHIANG HSLAO-SIEN, Commander of the Third Battalion of the Chinese Military Police, and TING CHAN, Vice Commander of the same battalion. Meanwhile, the National Government also decided to suspend the work of the Party office in Tientsin, and to transfer the Governor of Hopei Province (T.N.)* to some other post, and to order local authorities to trace down the assassins. But the Japanese were still unsatisfied with all these changes and decisions. Soon after, the Japanese again demanded (1) All Party offices in Hopei Province be entirely abolished, (2) The 51st Army, the 2nd Division and the 25th Division of the Central Army be withdrawn, and (3) All anti-Japanese activities be banned. These demands, furthermore, should be acceded and put into effect at once, otherwise, the Japanese Army would take unrestricted actions. As the situation at that time was so serious and grave, the Chinese Government in great pain agreed to compromise for the sake of peace. All Party offices in Hopei Province were voluntarily closed, the 51st Army, etc., were respectively transferred to other areas, and the National Government reiterated the ban on anti-Japanese movements. The Incident of Hopei Province was thereby concluded.

*(T.N.) The Governor of Hopei Province at that time was General YU HSUEH-CHUNG. The name has been mentioned in the preceding lines.